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Charles F. Heartman collection

Title: Charles F. Heartman collection
Collection No: MSS.31
Extent: 0.5 cubic feet
Inclusive Dates: 1927-1953

Abstract: The collection contains book catalogs and bibliographies published by book dealer and collector Charles F. Heartman (1883-1953), mostly while he lived in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, between 1936 and 1945.

Processed by: Gerald Chaudron, 2020.
Access: Open to all researchers.
Language: English
Preferred Citation: Charles F. Heartman collection, Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis.

Publication date: 2020 January

Biographical information

Charles F. Heartman (1883-1953) was a German émigré who began collecting books at an early age and, as an adult, became a book dealer, editor, and publisher. He owned book stores in New York and later moved to New Jersey where he hosted book auctions at his home. Heartman edited the magazines *The American Collector* and *The American Book Collector*, published bibliographies and reprints as part of his Heartman Historical Series, and produced catalogs for his auctions and mail-order business. He developed an interest in African Americana and built an important collection of documents, pamphlets and other materials, parts of which are now preserved in academic libraries at Xavier University and Texas Southern.

In 1935, Heartman relocated with his wife and daughter to New Orleans, Louisiana. It was during this time that Heartman decided to act on an idea that had been on his mind for many years. He wanted to create a Utopian colony comprised of artists and intellectuals and placed an ad in one of his magazines inviting participation. Heartman purchased land in 1936 near Hattiesburg, Mississippi, situated about 100 miles north of New Orleans, and called the 400-acre area The Book Farm. He described the farm as having living quarters for the Heartmans, several buildings, a brook and a swimming hole, pecan trees, and its own power plant; 100 acres were already under cultivation. Although there were a number of applications, the required investment of \$1000 was too much and the colony never materialized.

Heartman continued living and working in Mississippi publishing catalogs, bibliographies, reprints and checklists and incorporated into his imprint The Book Farm, Hattiesburg, Mississippi from 1936 to 1945. He and his wife relocated to The Beauvoir Community in Biloxi, Mississippi, in 1945. The last imprints with The Book Farm designation were published in New Braunfels, Texas, from 1947 until 1951, when the Heartmans returned to New Orleans and started The Southern Library Service. Heartman died in 1953.

Source: Peggy Price, "Charles F. Heartman and The Book Farm",
http://www.lib.usm.edu/spcol/exhibitions/item_of_the_month/iotm_august_09/

Scope and contents

The collection contains book catalogs, bibliographies and some other publications, mostly published while Charles Heartman lived in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, between 1936 and 1945.

Related materials

Heartman Papers, McCain Library & Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi.

Subject terms

Heartman, Charles F. (Charles Frederick), 1883-1953.

Inventory

Box 1

Folder

Catalogs:

- 1 "Books & Pamphlets Relating to The Negro and Slavery", No. 3-4, 1939 April-May.
"The Charles F. Heartman Collections of Material Relating to Negro Culture", News Sheet No. 1-7, 1945 January-November.

Unfolded

- "Americana", 1936 September-1947 December. Some missing issues.
- "Americana", circa 1948.
- "Americana", Heartman, New Braunfels, Texas, undated.
- "Americana", Sale No. 302-312, 1946 December-1953 May.
- "American Literature", 1941 September-October. Single volume containing 3 catalogs.
- "War Between the States", Sale No. 273-278, 1938 January-April.
- "Books and Pamphlets Relating to the Confederate States", 1940 December.
- "Catalogue of Rare Books", No. 12, undated.
- "Poeana", No. 3, 1947 January.
- "American Autographs", undated.
- "One Hundred and Fifty Pamphlets Mainly Related to South Carolina", undated.
- "A Small but Choice Collection of More Than Five Hundred California Newspapers, 1850-1855", undated.
- "Bibliographies and Related Materials Published by Charles F. Heartman", Price Daniel, Jr., Waco, Texas, undated.

Bibliographies:

- Heartman, Charles F., "Bibliography of the Writings and Speeches of Gabriel Wells, L.H.D.", Hattiesburg, Miss.: Book Farm, 1939.
- McGirr, Newman F., "Bio-Bibliography of Peter Force, 1790-1868", Hattiesburg, Miss.: Book Farm, 1941.
- Heartman, Charles F., "Bibliographical Checklist of the Writings of the Poet Charles West Thomson", Hattiesburg, Miss.: Book Farm, 1941.
- Wegelin, Oscar, "A Bibliographical List of the Literary and Dramatic Productions and Periodicals Written and Compiled by Samuel Woodworth", Heartman's Historical Series No. 78, New Orleans, 1953.

Other publications:

- "A Narrative of the Captivity of Isaac Webster", Metuchen, N.J.: Charles F. Heartman,

1927.

“An Immigrant of 100 Years Ago: A Story of Someone’s Ancestor”, Heartman’s
Historical Series No. 61, Hattiesburg, Miss.: 1941.

Heartman, Charles F., “U.S.-IANA, a New Bibliography: One Commercial Bibliographer
to Another, New Orleans, 1952.